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RTD UPDATES: Cropping Practices Surveys

Data updates for employees and colleagues of the Resources and Technology Division

Resources and Technology Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture

May 1992

Field Crop Surveys Support USDA Pesticide Database and Research

The annual USDA Cropping Practices Surveys collect fertilizer, pesticide, and other production practice information on major field crops. These statewide surveys represented nearly 200 million acres of cropland in 1991 and included most of the U.S. acreage of corn, cotton, peanuts, potatoes, rice, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat.

These surveys support USDA's pesticide data program which estimates chemical use in agriculture and provide a research database related to food safety, water quality, farmworker safety, sustainable agriculture, and other issues. In addition to chemical use, the survey included questions about tillage, nutrient tests, use of livestock manure, and previously planted crops on the sampled field. Information on participation in USDA commodity support programs, ownership status of the

operator, and whether the land is highly erodible is also part of the survey.

State estimates of pesticide and fertilizer application are reported in **Agricultural Chemical Usage, 1991 Field Crops Summary**, AgCh1(92), Nat'l. Agr. Stat. Serv., U.S. Dept. Agr., March 1992. ERS **Agricultural Resources, Situation and Outlook** reports provide additional data and perspectives from these surveys. Tables in this **RTD UPDATES** report summary information about the surveyed crops and some of their production practices. Care was taken to minimize statistical errors, but the results are affected by sampling variability and nonsampling errors.

Further information: Merritt Padgitt, Leader, Survey and Data Section, RTD (202)219-0434.

Monthly Data Releases Planned

RTD UPDATES, published by the Resources and Technology Division, is a new series of monthly data highlights relating to agricultural resources, the environment, food safety, global change, and technology. Surveys of farm operators and others knowledgeable about changing agricultural resource conditions provide vital information to the RTD research program and are the source of these data highlights. **RTD UPDATES** gives readers recent data acquisitions, with only minimal interpretation or analysis. This quick release of data should enhance your analytical efforts and decisions. Please contact the individual listed in the text of **RTD UPDATES** on the availability and timing of additional information. Different resource and technology issues are featured each month, depending on availability of data.

Preceding Crops on 1991 Corn Acres

Percent of acreage

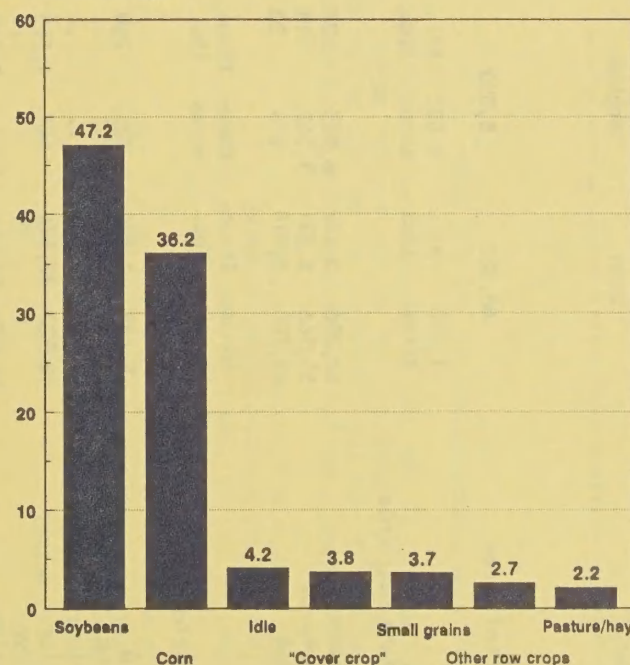


Table 1--Acres treated and quantity of primary plant nutrients and pesticides applied to selected field crops in the major producing States, 1991 1/

Item	1,000 acres									
	Corn	Sorghum	Soybeans	Cotton	Rice	Peanuts	Wheat	Potatoes		
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,130
Planted acres	68,580	8,050	53,230	10,850	1,860	1,490	50,530			
Primary nutrients:										
Nitrogen	65,856	8,447	6,923	527	211	8,512	796	1,841	231	218
Phosphorus	55,566	3,331	3,542	118	538	11,704	265	595	27	174
Potash	48,706	3,910	886	20	948	12,236	179	632	29	146
	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.
Herbicides:										
2,4-D	5,488	2,800	725	269	**	**	--	149	130	--
2,4-DB	--	--	--	--	133	532	--	--	152	--
Acifluorfen	--	--	--	--	946	4,788	--	93	39	--
Alchlor	18,522	37,174	644	1,146	12,835	6,384	**	--	--	--
Ametryn	*	59	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Atrazine	45,276	52,060	5,474	5,249	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.
Benefin	--	--	--	--	**	**	--	--	252	--
Bensulfuron-methyl	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	37	1	--
Bentazon	1,372	478	**	**	--	6,384	--	74	67	--
Bromoxynil	4,802	1,344	161	40	4,243	--	--	130	31	--
Butylate	2,058	8,478	--	**	--	--	--	--	--	--
Chloramben	--	--	*	--	242	--	--	--	--	--
	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.
Chlorimuron-ethyl	--	--	--	--	217	9,044	--	--	1	--
Chlorsulfuron	--	--	--	--	--	3,192	--	--	3,069	45
Clomazone	--	--	--	--	1,948	--	--	--	--	--
Cyanazine	13,034	23,161	161	96	--	--	1,701	--	**	--
Dicamba	10,976	3,556	161	45	--	--	--	--	5,297	424
Diclofop-methyl	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	270	242
	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.
Diuron	**	**	**	**	--	--	763	459	--	--
DSMA	--	--	--	--	--	--	436	761	--	--
EPTC	3,430	14,355	--	--	**	**	--	--	--	1,192
Ethalfuralin	--	--	--	--	1,368	1,596	--	--	357	--
Fenoxaprop-ethyl	--	--	--	--	**	**	--	335	68	--
Fluazifop-P-butyl	--	--	--	--	373	2,660	83	--	5	--
	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. acres	Thous. lbs.	Thous. lbs.
Fluometuron	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,725	2,453	--	--
Fomesafen	--	--	--	--	260	1,064	--	226	--	--
Glyphosate	1,372	1,156	322	173	2,358	2,660	327	56	32	26
Imazamethabenz	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	341	217
Imazaquin	**	**	--	--	772	7,980	--	--	405	118
Imazethapyr	--	--	--	--	718	12,768	--	--	--	--

See footnote at end of table.

--Continued

Table 1--Acres treated and quantity of primary plant nutrients and pesticides applied to selected field crops in the major producing States, 1991 1/--Con't.

Item	Corn		Sorghum		Soybeans		Cotton		Rice		Peanuts		Wheat		Potatoes	
	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.	1,000 acres	Mil. lbs.
Lactofen	--	--	--	--	532	58	327	39	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Linuron	*	93	**	**	1,596	979	**	**	--	--	--	--	--	--	68	53
MCPA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	**	**	--	--	7,023	2,426	--	--
Methazole	--	--	--	--	--	--	545	335	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Metholachlor	--	--	--	2,195	4,256	7,625	436	380	--	--	551	1,045	--	--	124	243
Metribuzin	**	**	--	--	8,512	2,715	--	--	--	--	--	--	**	--	678	321
Metsulfuron-methyl	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,336	8	--	--
Molinate	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	725	2,515	--	--	--	--	--	--
MSMA	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,853	3,213	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nicosulfuron	2,744	76	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Norflurazon	--	--	--	--	**	**	1,744	1,258	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Oxyfluorfen	**	**	--	--	--	--	218	29	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Paraquat	686	201	**	**	1,064	452	--	--	--	--	626	102	**	**	--	--
Pendimethalin	2,058	2,745	**	**	9,044	7,908	1,853	1,551	112	107	373	331	--	--	192	175
Primisulfuron	686	29	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Prometryn	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,507	1,821	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Propachlor	686	1,456	483	1,042	**	**	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	**	**
Propanil	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,488	6,696	--	--	--	--	--	--
Quizalofop-ethyl	--	--	--	--	1,596	122	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sethoxydim	--	--	--	--	2,660	488	218	42	--	--	194	42	--	--	34	7
Simazine	686	1,081	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Thifensulfuron	**	**	--	--	2,660	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,238	28	--	--
Thiobencarb	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	279	717	--	--	--	--	--	--
Triallate	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	869	801	--	--
Tribenuron-methyl	**	**	**	**	**	**	--	--	--	--	--	--	3,618	26	--	--
Triclopyr	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	37	12	--	--	--	--	--	--
Tridiphane	686	264	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Trifluralin	*	111	**	**	18,620	16,324	6,867	5,589	**	**	149	71	1,661	629	45	29
Vernolate	--	--	--	--	**	**	--	--	--	--	298	529	--	--	--	--

* Applied on less than 1 percent of the acres.

** Insufficient reports to publish data.

-- Not registered or no use reported.

1/ The following States are included in the Cropping Practices Surveys: Corn: GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, NC, OH, PA, SC, SD, TX, and WI. Sorghum: KS, NE, and TX. Soybeans: AR, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MO, NE, NC, OH, SD, and TN. Cotton: AZ, AR, CA, LA, MS, and TX. Rice: AR and LA. Peanuts: GA, NC, VA, and TX. Wheat: AR, CO, ID, IL, IN, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE, ND, OH, OK, OR, SD, TX, and WA. Potatoes: CO, ID, ME, MI, MN, NY, ND, OR, PA, WA, and WI. 2/ "Crop Production, 1991 Summary," USDA, NASS, CrPr 2-1(92), Jan. 1992.

Source: 1991 Cropping Practices Surveys, USDA

Table 2--Cropping practices and other characteristics of selected field crops, 1991

Item	Corn	Sorghum	Soybeans	Cotton	Rice	Peanuts	Wheat	Potatoes
	1,000 acres							
Planted acres 1/	68,580	8,050	53,230	10,900	1,860	1,490	50,530 2/	1,130
Practices:	Percent							
Irrigation	10.8	12.7	6.2	43.5	NA	24.2	6.3	72.9
Cultivation for weed control	59.3	69.9	60.9	93.2	NA	87.2	NA	94.2
Average times over	(1.3)	(1.7)	(1.6)	(3.5)	NA	(1.9)	NA	(2.0)
Application of livestock manure	16.4	3.7	5.5	3.0	2.0	1.7	3.4	3.9
Soil nutrient testing	36.4	20.4	28.2	32.4	25.1	69.4	23.8	84.1
Nitrogen nutrient testing	21.9	19.3	16.3	28.3	17.5	32.1	22.4	78.1
Other characteristics:								
Highly erodible land	19.4	25.4	16.5	21.6	4.9	10.1	25.7	31.9
Enrollment in ARP 3/	67.7	83.9	NA	85.9	98.8	NA	92.3	NA

NA = Not applicable.

1/ "Crop Production, 1991 Summary," USDA, NASS, CrPr 2-1(92), Jan. 1992. 2/ Harvested acres. 3/ Represents the percent of total commodity acreage enrolled in the Federal Acreage Reduction Program, 1991.

Source: 1991 Cropping Practice Surveys, USDA

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Economic Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1301 New York Avenue, N.W., Room 524
Washington, DC 20005-4788